

Message Text

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 15079 VICE 5079)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN, CSCE, SOPN, UR, GE
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ON USIA REORGANIZATION

1. OCTOBER 14 PRAVDA'S "KOLONKO KOMENTATORA" COLUMN BY YURIY BOL'SHAKOV CASTIGATES USIA REORGANIZATION AS "CONTRADICTORY" TO FINAL ACT. ENTITLED "THE PROPAGANDA STAKES", BOL'SHAKOV'S COLUMN CLAIMS USIA REORGANIZATION IS "AIMED FIRST OF ALL AT USSR AND THE OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES" AND IS SUPPORTED BY MASSIVE FUNDING. PRAVDA AND IZVESTIA OF OCTOBER 13 CARRY OCTOBER WASHINGTON DATELINED TASS PIECE ENTITLED "REORGANIZATION OF THE US PROPAGANDA APPARATUS" WHICH IS LESS POLEMICAL BUT ALSO NOTES THAT A STRENGTHENED OVERSEAS US PROPAGANDA EFFORT IS THE GOAL. INTERESTINGLY BOL'SHAKOV REFERS TO THE "RADIO AND TELEVISION NET OF THE VOICE OF AMERICA (SIC)."

2. BOL'SHAKOV'S EARLIER PIECES ON WESTERN FOREIGN INFORMATION PROGRAMS HAVE REFERRED TO "BLACK PROPAGANDA" BUT HAVE NOT SINGLED OUT USIA.
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ONLY RECENT SUCH ATTACK NOTED HAS BEEN IN PRAVDA'S SEPTEMBER 7 YURIY ZHUKOV PIECE ON THE IMMINENT REORGANIZATION OF USIA, WHICH ACCUSES AGENCY OF ORGANIZING PROGRAMS CONSTITUTING "CRUDE INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES."

3. NOTING THAT THE ADMINISTRATION HAD IN MAY

RECOMMENDED TO CONGRESS "THE NECESSITY" TO RETURN TO THE USA "THE INITIATIVE IN THE IDEOLOGICAL ARENA", BOL'SHAKOV CHARACTERIZES THE ADMINISTRATION EFFORT AS EVIDENCE OF THE SERIOUS "CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE" IN THE USA, THE CAUSES FOR WHICH HE LISTS AS THE VIETNAM WAR, THE ILLEGAL ACTS OF THE CIA AND THE FBI AND WATERGATE. HE ALSO ATTRIBUTES STRENGTH TO THE REALIZATION BY US "RULING CIRCLES" THAT COMMUNIST AND WORKERS PARTIES ARE GAINING STRENGTH, THAT THE DEVELOPING NATIONS TEND TO "THE PARTH OF SOCIALIST ORIENTATION."

4. "ACCORDINGLY", BOL'SHAKOV'S ARGUMENT RUNS, "THE REORGANIZATION OF THE US'S INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL PROPAGANDA APPARATUS IS DIRECTED FIRST OF ALL AGAINST THE USSR AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. IDEOLOGICAL DIVERSIONS AND ATTEMPTS TO DISCREDIT SOCIALISM AND COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES OCCUPY A NOT INSIGNIFICANT PLACE BOTH IN AMERICAN PROPAGANDA OVERSEAS AND IN CULTURAL PROGRAMS AND SIMILAR US EXCHANGES. IN THIS CONNECTION, MANY OBSERVERS INDICATE THAT THE PLANS OF ACTION OF THE NEW U.S. PROPAGANDA DEPARTMENT ARE IN DIRECT CONTRADICTION TO THE THESIS OF THE FINAL ACT, AS THEY UNDERMINE THE TRUST OF PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES IN ONE ANOTHER, VERGING ON INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATES."
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5. BOL'SHAKOV ENDS HIS PIECE BY SAYING THAT "IDEALOGUES OF AMERICANISM" CALL FOR TAILORING PROPAGANDA TO A CHANGING WORLD. "THE WORLD HAS CHANGED," HE ANSWERS, "SO MUCH STAT INTERFERENCEIN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATES WILL NOWHERE BE TOLERATED - DESPITE THE PROPAGANDISTIC SCREEN UNDER WHICH IT MAY BE CONDUCTED."

6. COMMENT: BOL'SHAKOV COLUMN MAY VERY WELL PRESAGE PRESS AND ZNANIYE LECTURER ATTENTIO TO THE NEW AGENCY, TO AN ALLEGED INCREASE IN USG OVERSEAS "PROPAGANDA" EFFORT, AND TO ITS ANTI-SOVIET PURPOSES. ACCUSATIONS OF "INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATES" ARE NOW A LIKELY THEME AS DIRECTED AGAINST THE NEW AGENCY'S FIELD OF RESPONSIBILITY. THERE IS NO PRESENT INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT ANY OF THE SOVIET WORKING CONTACTS INVOLVED IN COOPERATIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF P& C PROGRAMS ARE BACKING OFF FROM NORMAL CONTACTS WITH THE EMBASSY.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 14-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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